

a new way to **LIVE**

IMITATORS, Ephesians 5:1-6 March 24, 2019

CONNECT

1. When your mind wanders, what are the types of things you tend to think about?

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2. How does being and living like you are a beloved child of God shape your behavior?
3. When you don't feel loved, how are you more likely to not live like His child?
4. Read Ephesians 5:5-7 & Ephesians 1:11-14. Who doesn't have an inheritance in God's family? Who does?
5. How is the love of Christ so different than the "love" of the world that is immoral, impure and covetous?
6. Why are certain types of talk out of place for Christians (Ephesians 5:4)? What should our talk include instead? Use your mouth to share thanksgiving about God's provision in Christ and for people. Read James 3:1-12 for a vision of how we can use our tongues.
7. If you have men and women in your group, separate by gender and share how you personally get tripped up in issues of sexuality and speech. Consider how to help each other move toward Jesus in these places.
 - Read James 1:12-15. Pray silently and ask the Holy Spirit these questions: Are there any ways I am living in sexual immorality, impurity or covetousness? Have any of the places my mind tends to wander become an idol—where a desire becomes a "need" and then something I pursue or take for myself? Repent and receive grace.
8. A person becomes what he/she thinks about all day. Practically, how can you think more about Jesus' love for you so that you think about things above (Colossians 3:1-13)?

CONTRIBUTE

9. In what ways do you tend to go along with or reflect the "sons of disobedience"? What does it mean to not partner with them but to live as children of obedience in relationships with them?
10. How does the truth of the gospel help us engage with the sexual brokenness of our society?
11. If someone said to you that they believe God's love means that people can live unholy lives without fear of punishment, how does this passage help you not be deceived with those empty words? How does it help you respond, instead, by speaking the truth in love?